

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 7, 13, 17 and 20 have been amended. Claims 4, 10, 16 and 22 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 15 and 17-20 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 13, 15 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Brannon et al. (US 6,530,258) (hereinafter "Brannon").

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 and 10

Independent claims 1 and 7 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 16, and are therefore now believed to be in a condition for allowance. Claims 4 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 2 and 8 depend on claims 1 and 7, respectively, and are therefore believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 13, 15 and 17-20

Independent claims 13 and 20 have been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claims 16 and 22, respectively, and are therefore now believed to be in a condition for allowance. Claims 15 and 17-19 depend on claim 13, and are therefore believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that claims 16 and 22 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Claims 16 and 22 have been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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